

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A liquid dispensing apparatus, including a container for containing a liquid; a container setting part for setting the container; and a dispensing mechanism part having a pipette for drawing and dispensing the liquid, a raising/lowering part for raising and lowering the pipette, a base for holding the raising/lowering part and a base driving part for moving the base, thereby enabling to act the pipette at a suitable position, wherein a lid being capable of being opened/closed with an opening/closing pivot part is coupled to the container, and the lid is provided with a hook part projecting upward for engaging, and the base is provided with a projection part for engaging, which opens the lid by abutting against the hook part and moving the hook part toward the pivot part side of the container as the base moves relatively to the container and retains the state of the lid opened.

2. The liquid dispensing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the pipette has a pipette body and a liquid metering means provided to the pipette body for metering liquid.

3. The liquid dispensing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the raising/lowering part includes a pair of pulleys provided in vertically-spaced relationship at the base, a motor rotating/driving one of these pulleys and a belt looped over these pulleys between them.

4. The liquid dispensing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the container for containing the liquid is a specimen container and/or a reagent container and the container setting part is any one among a

portion at which a rack for holding the specimen container is placed, a portion to which the specimen container are transferred by a transfer apparatus and a portion at which the reagent container are placed.

5 5. The liquid dispensing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the hook part projects upward from near the center of the lid and has an engaging portion approximately parallel to the pivot part for being engaged with the projection part.

10 6. The liquid dispensing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the projection part is capable of extending and retracting, having a state of projection in which the projection part projects to engage with the hook part and a state of retraction in which the projection part retracts to disengage with the hook part.

15 7. The liquid dispensing apparatus as set forth in claim 6, wherein the projection part is a piston of an air cylinder attached to the base and actuated with working air supplied externally.

8. The liquid dispensing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the projection part is a protrusion attached to the base.

20 9. The liquid dispensing apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the container is configured in such a way that the direction of the opening/closing of the lid is consistent with a specified direction when the container is set at the container setting part.

10. An automatic analyzing apparatus comprising a liquid dispensing apparatus as set forth in any one of claims 1 to 9.